



MITT ROMNEY
GOVERNOR

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For Immediate Release: October 19, 2005
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MEDIA ADVISORY

State Officials Fear Increased Winter Fire Risk as People Turn to Alternative Heating

State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan, President of the Fire Chiefs' Association of Massachusetts Steven Edwards, and Department of Public Safety Commissioner Thomas G. Gatzunis will hold two press conferences on Wednesday, October 26, 2005 to address winter heating safety. Fire and building officials are concerned with the high cost of heating this winter that people will turn to alternative heating sources increasing both the risk of fires and carbon monoxide poisoning.

The first press conference will be held at 10:30 a.m. at the Department of Fire Services in Stow, MA and the second press conference will be held at 2:30 p.m. at the Department of Fire Services in Northampton, MA.

Date: **October 26, 2005**

Eastern Mass.: **10:30 a.m.**
Department of Fire Services
State Road, Stow, MA

Western Mass.: **2:30 p.m.**
Department of Fire Services
One Prince Street, Northampton, MA

Directions: www.mass.gov/dfs/about_dfs/dfsmap.htm

Visuals: **Demonstration of safe space heater use, electrical safety, and wood stove safety.**